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R E M A R K S

Claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10-12, and 25 are pending in the present application. Claims 6, 11, and 25 are canceled herein. Claims 2, 4, 8, 10, and 12 are amended. Upon entry of this Preliminary Amendment, claims 2, 4, 8, 10, and 12 will be pending. No new matter is inserted into the application.

Interviews

Applicants' representative expresses gratitude to the Examiner and Supervisory Examiner for the beneficial interview held at the United States Patent and Trademark Office on May 20, 2004, and for the telephonic interview held with the Examiner on September 13, 2004.

In the Interview Summary dated May 20, 2004, the Examiner writes, "Amendment to claims to obviate the rejection of record was discussed." Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to the claims made herein are fully responsive to said discussion with the Examiner and Supervisory Examiner, and therefore place the present application into condition for allowance.

In particular, claim 2 is amended to recite that the isolated tumor antigen peptide of 8-14 amino acids in length is a fragment of cyclophilin B sequence of SEQ ID NO:44. As discussed during the interview, this amendment overcomes the pending

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rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Price (1991). Claim 4 is rewritten into Markush format, as suggested by the Supervisory Examiner. Further, the recitation of "8-14 amino acids" is deleted since each sequence recited in claim 4 already has between 8-14 amino acids. Claim 8 is amended into independent form. As requested by the Supervisory Examiner, claims 10 and 11 are combined into one independent claim (i.e., claim 10), which lists the sequence identifying numbers in Markush format. Claim 12 is amended into proper dependency, while claims 6, 11, and 25 are canceled.

During the interview on September 13, 2004, Applicants' representative informed the Examiner that the current Preliminary Amendment would be filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the above amendments and/or remarks overcome the rejections of record. The instant claims recite patentable subject matter such that the present application is in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to issue a Notice of Allowability indicating that claims 2, 4, 8, 10, and 12 are allowed.

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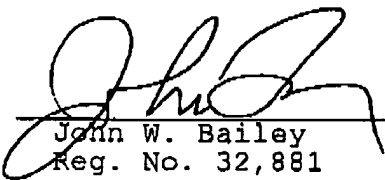
The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Kristi L. Rupert, Ph.D. (Reg. No. 45,702) at 703-205-8000 with any questions.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

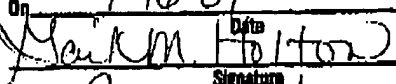
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